

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1363

Introduced by Assembly Member Jones

February 22, 2005

An act to add Chapter 2.8 (commencing with Section 16190) to Part 4 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to foster youth, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1363, as introduced, Jones. Foster Youth Credit Guarantee Program.

Existing law provides services and programs for youth transitioning from foster care to independent living situations, including the Supportive Transitional Emancipation Program, and transitional housing services.

This bill would establish the Foster Youth Credit Guarantee Program, and would appropriate an unspecified amount from the General Fund to the Foster Youth Credit Guarantee Fund, also established by the bill, which would be continuously appropriated and used by the State Department of Social Services for purposes of administering the program. The fund would serve to cosign for, and guarantee against default by, recently emancipated foster youth entering into certain credit agreements, including, but not limited to, rental agreements, cellular phone accounts, and automobile loans. The bill would require the department to adopt regulations establishing eligibility requirements for the program, and standards regarding the types and amounts of credit agreements that would be guaranteed under the fund.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2.8 (commencing with Section 16190) is added to Part 4 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

CHAPTER 2.8. FOSTER YOUTH CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM

16190. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Foster Youth Credit Guarantee Program.

16191. (a) The Foster Youth Credit Guarantee Fund is hereby created. Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code, moneys in the fund shall be continuously appropriated, without regard to fiscal years, to the State Department of Social Services, for the purposes of this chapter.

(b) The fund shall serve as a cosigner for, and guarantee against default by, recently emancipated foster youth entering into credit agreements, including, but not limited to, rental agreements, cellular phone accounts, and automobile loans.

(c) The department shall adopt regulations to implement this chapter, including regulations establishing eligibility requirements for the program, and standards regarding the types of credit agreements and maximum amounts that shall be guaranteed under the program.

SEC. 2. The sum of _____ dollars (\$_____) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Foster Youth Credit Guarantee Fund, which shall be used by the State Department of Social Services in administering the Foster Youth Credit Guarantee Program pursuant to Chapter 2.8 (commencing with Section 16190) of Part 4 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.